DEMONSTRATION OF NEED

The S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act was amended in October 2000 to be consistent with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recycling and disposal (reduction) goals. As a result, South Carolina changed the way recycling, disposal and generation are defined and measured. See page 8 for specific definition.

The Demonstration of Need Regulation (DON), R.61-107.17, established the criteria for demonstrating the need for construction of new solid waste disposal facilities and the expansion of existing facilities. These facilities include municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills, industrial solid waste landfills, long-term construction and demolition debris landfills, industrial incinerators and MSW incinerators. The regulation establishes a 75-mile planning area around proposed MSW and commercial industrial solid waste landfills and solid waste incinerators. It also establishes a 10-mile planning area around commercial construction and demolition debris landfills.

When determining need for a solid waste disposal facility, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control considers specific criteria including the location of the proposed facility or expansion, the number of commercial disposal facilities within the planning area of the proposed new or expanded facility, and the amount of waste generated (including MSW) within the planning area. It is important to note that an operator of existing solid waste disposal facilities can expand or build a replacement without meeting DON when the existing solid waste disposal facility is closed. The maximum annual tonnage of solid waste that a solid waste disposal facility can accept is calculated by adding the total tonnage of waste generated within the borders of all counties that fall within or touch the planning area. Waste generation numbers for each county are listed in Charts 6.1 on page 60. Counties may further limit the maximum tonnage through their local solid waste management plans.



MSW Generation

MSW generation is the primary consideration when determining the need for a solid waste disposal facility.

MSW generation is calculated by adding the amount of MSW disposed of in landfills, incinerated and exported (generated in South Carolina and disposed out of state) to the amount of MSW recycled.

In FY04, 4.3 million tons of MSW was generated in the state. Of this total, about 3.3 millions tons were disposed of in landfills and 965,916 tons were recycled. South Carolinians generated about one-third of the MSW that was recycled during FY04.

Commercial businesses, institutions and industry generated the remaining two-thirds. South Carolinians, on average, generated (recycled + disposed and incinerated = generation) 5.7 pounds per person per day of MSW in FY04.

South Carolinians accounted for 56 percent of the MSW that was disposed of in landfills, incinerated and exported during FY04. Commercial businesses, institutions and industry made up the remaining 44 percent.

Chart 6.1: Solid V	Waste Generated fo	r Disposal in Tons	for Use In Demon	strating Need	
COUNTY	FY04	FY03	FY02	FY01	FY00
Abbeville	18,817	25,909	23,792	25,879	25,486
Aiken	149,515	111,935	101,193	121,897	103,087
Allendale	5,903	6,540	6,549	6,297	6,303
Anderson	148,849	148,232	170,387	136,770	165,060
Bamberg	11,652	13,768	17,911	19,644	17,606
Barnwell	19,373	18,247	71,924	20,570	22,064
Beaufort	167,383	151,624	142,337	139,979	134,951
Berkeley	353,891	305,575	172,888	155,071	132,499
Calhoun	8,660	9,659	10,183	3,938	12,697
Charleston	391,841	180,463	149,955	159,547	212,498
Cherokee	71,332	73,943	78,519	86,395	97,981
Chester	37,070	44,435	58,377	31,543	31,311
Chesterfield	21,941	24,514	22,506	24,842	57,554
Clarendon	18,403	10,932	14,222	32,148	32,850
Colleton	35,071	31,737	52,805	19,762	39,291
Darlington	52,057	68,953	45,920	51,138	39,352
Dillon	13,925	34,092	31,961	38,571	18,607
Dorchester	94,275	93,306	64,906	65,143	73,767
Edgefield	13,969	14,870	14,774	14,822	13,765
Fairfield	22,546	23,076	19,664	21,065	23,130
Florence	152,909	151,123	148,367	150,094	131,033
Georgetown	49,736	70,531	71,720	59,655	70,117
Greenville	589,204	613,417	489,216	526,467	498,874
Greenwood	109,407	91,719	93,699	105,728	111,454
Hampton	18,188	22,039	20,656	20,203	20,701
Horry	227,469	212,686	193,573	199,410	195,960
Jasper	27,039	17,692	15,457	15,351	13,968
Kershaw	40,162	45,597	39,716	37,575	36,358
Lancaster	35,623	35,088	36,565	30,175	33,433
Laurens	51,636	57,940	50,477	51,133	49,167
Lee	14,981	14,670	27,034	19,245	18,674
Lexington	256,226	221,323	172,856	128,951	125,788
Marion	21,673	4,796	13,668	13,830	50,571
Marlboro	21,815	15,289	13,846	10,401	13,003
McCormick	5,183	11,869	4,682	5,333	4,746
Newberry	48,591	47,893	47,662	44,292	40,326
Oconee	45,533	45,260	46,749	50,400	44,351
Orangeburg	92,969	98,350	84,278	85,677	78,506
Pickens	59,873	56,938	56,669	58,572	47,353
Richland	349,087	327,966	323,740	342,760	365,878
Saluda	9,684	9,197	8,619	8,702	10,360
Spartanburg	373,060	418,942	307,298	314,706	316,587
Sumter	135,220	119,698	95,752	96,023	84,072
Union	18,988	12,835	15,794	17,241	19,659
Williamsburg	25,582	26,100	26,966	36,385	33,215
York	152,150	147,720	139,609	144,255	137,258

This data is solely for use in calculating annual MSWLF tonnage limits as related to R.61-107.17, Demonstration of Need. Any other use of this data may lead to an inaccurate conclusion.